

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO
AMCONSUL MONTERREY

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E.O. LI652:N/A
TAGS: EIND, ETRD, US, MX
SUBJECT: MEXICAN INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT VIEW ON
SCRAP METAL CRISIS
REF: MONTERREY 0053

I. LIC SALVADOR ALVAREZ, COMMERCIAL ATTACHE, MEX. EMB.;
NOEL HEMMENDINGER, ATTORNEY; ING. RAUL RAMOS NORIEGA, ALTOS
HORNOS DE MEXICO; RICHARD MASON, GUADALUPE INDUSTRIAL
SUPPLY CO., SAN ANTONIO (A SUBSIDIARY OF ALTOS HORNOS DE
MEXICO); MIGUEL MONCADA, ACEROS NACIONALES; AND HIPOLITO
GARCIA CHAPA, HYLSA; MET WITH STATE AND COMMERCE DEPT. OF-
FICIALS JAN.17 & 18 TO PRESENT THEIR VIEWS ON MEXICO'S
FERROUS SCRAP SUPPLY PROBLEM.

2. ACTING AS SPOKESMAN FOR THE GROUP, MASON CONTENDED THAT
THE MEXICAN STEEL INDUSTRY IS CLOSELY INTEGRATED WITH US
STEEL INDUSTRY AND TOTALLY DEPENDENT ON U.S. FOR SCRAP,
WHICH COMES FROM U.S. BORDER STATES AND IS NOT A FACTOR IN
SCRAP METAL MOVEMENTS WHICH NECESSITATE US EXPORT CONTROLS;
SCRAP MEXICO BUYS IS SOLELY FOR INTERNAL USE; MEXICO BEING
VICTIMIZED BY EXCESSIVE BUYING OF OTHER NATIONS; ANY KIND
OF SUBSTITUTION SOLUTION CAN ONLY BE LONG RANGE PROJECT.
FURTHERMORE, MEXICO'S NEED FOR SCRAP METAL GREATLY INCREASED

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IN 1973 OVER 1971 AND 1972, AND BASE FOR MEXICO'S FIRST-

QUARTER I974 QUOTA NEITHER FAIR NOR ADEQUATE TO MEXICO'S

ACTUAL SITUATION. THEREFORE, MEXICO SHOULD BE GIVEN INCREASED QUOTA, OR GET AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE OF 100.000 TON EMERGENCY AMOUNT, OR AT LEAST BE GIVEN SPECIAL CONSIDERATION FOR REMAINDER 1974.

4. USG OFFICIALS EXPLAINED THAT U.S. SCRAP SUPPLY SITUATION WAS STILL VERY SERIOUS AND PRESSURES REMAIN FOR EVEN MORE STRINGENT EXPORT CONTROL. WHILE SYMPATHETIC TO MEXICAN PROBLEM THERE APPEARED TO BE NO SOLUTION DURING PRESENT QUARTER. KISSINGER

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